GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3877
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Radiation Leakage at Delhi Airport
Nimmala Shri Kristappa

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is radioactive leak scare at Delhi airport recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to avoid such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): A Turkish Airlines flight from Istanbul had arrived at 4.30 AM on 29th May, 2015 at Terminal-3, Indira Gandhi International Airport. At 8.24 AM while unloading the consignment of 10 containers of the sodium iodide 131, a radioactive liquid, which is used to treat hyperthyroidism and thyroid cancers, two loaders observed leakage from 4 containers. The sample of the leaked fluid was taken and checked by the team of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and Atomic Mineral Division (AMD) and after following the procedure; it was found that there was no radioactive leakage.

(c): Airports Authority of India has informed that Delhi Airport has an emergency preparedness plan to deal with such airport emergency requirement and incidents. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has also issued guidelines for management of Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies, Chemical disaster (Terrorist Attack), Biological disasters and Chemical disasters (Industrial). The Battalions of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have also been trained and equipped to deal with chemical, biological and radiological disasters.

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